

Eastern Germany

REPORT NO.

Military Information from Rathenow

EVALUATION 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 27 June to 4 July 1952

DATE OBTAINED 25X1 DATE PREPARED 7 August 1952

REFERENCES 25X1

PAGES 1 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. From 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on 27 June 1952, an officers' briefing was held in the headquarters building of the Ziethen Kaserne on Bahnhofstrasse, Rathenow (N 53/Z 15). Two lieutenant colonels, 2 majors, 4 captains and 1 senior lieutenant arrived in sedans [redacted] at 10 a.m. and 25 officers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, including some with tank insignia, led by a major, arrived on foot at the installation at 10:30 a.m. from the Rathenow-North railroad station. [redacted] recognized the major as former captain in the Ziethen Kaserne and learned [redacted] that he was now stationed in Neuruppin (N 53/Z 19). The last mentioned officers left at about 3 p.m. aboard the regular train from Rathenow-North toward Neustadt-Dosse.

2. The unit which was referred to [redacted] as first battalion and had reportedly left with motor vehicles [redacted] returned at 9 a.m. on 4 July, equipped with factory-new vehicles [redacted]. The motor vehicles of the second battalion [redacted] were exchanged for factory-new vehicles [redacted].

3. A convoy of trucks [redacted] left the Kraftfahrer Kaserne on Semliner Strasse at 7:30 p.m. on 3 July 1952. The vehicles carried an average of 12 soldiers, tents, boxes, ropes and axes. The convoy drove through Rathenow toward west, in the direction of Neue Schleuse. Source had the impression that the troops left for a long-term field exercise. **

Comment. It has already been assumed that the 1st battalion in the Ziethen Kaserne is the 821st Arty Recon Bn of the IV Arty Corps which, according to source, had left for Altengrabow at the end of May 1952. [redacted] The other unit which is mentioned for the first time as second battalion, is possibly identical with an unidentified signal battalion of the IV Arty Corps carried in the Ziethen Kaserne. [redacted]

Comment. Presumably a field exercise of a rear unit of the 10th How Arty Brig (US) in the Kraftfahrer Kaserne.

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